



*United States Attorney  
District of New Jersey*

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**UPDATED**

**TWO MEMBERS AND AN ASSOCIATE OF NEW JERSEY FRUIT TOWN BRIMS  
BLOODS SENTENCED TO PRISON FOR MURDER CONSPIRACY**

NEWARK, N.J. – Two members and an associate of the New Jersey Fruit Town Brims (“FTB”) Set of the Bloods street gang were sentenced today to prison terms for their involvement in a conspiracy to commit murder in aid of racketeering, United States Attorney Paul J. Fishman announced.

United States District Judge Stanley R. Chesler sentenced Matthew Turner and Anthony Walker each to 13 years in prison, and David Ariste to 10 years in prison for their roles in the shooting death of a Jersey City, New Jersey teenager in 2004.

Turner, 29, of Jersey City, a member of the Piru set of the Bloods and an FTB associate, previously pleaded guilty on August 24, 2009, before United States District Judge Joseph A. Greenaway Jr., to a count of conspiracy to commit murder in aid of racketeering and a count of conspiracy to commit an assault with a dangerous weapon in aid of racketeering.

Walker, 28, of Jersey City, New Jersey, an FTB member, previously pleaded guilty on September 21, 2009, before Judge Greenaway to a count of conspiracy to commit murder in aid of racketeering and a count of conspiracy to commit an assault with a dangerous weapon in aid of racketeering.

Ariste, 28, of East Orange, New Jersey, an FTB member, previously pleaded guilty on October 5, 2009, before Judge Greenaway to a count of conspiracy to commit murder in aid of racketeering.

According to documents filed in this and related cases and statements made in Newark federal court:

On July 19, 2004, a non-gang member identified in court documents as “S.J.” shot at Walker near the corner of Wilkinson Avenue and Martin Luther King Drive in Jersey City. Walker, Turner, Ariste and others then agreed that they should retaliate because a member of the FTB had been disrespected. Turner went to look for S.J., and reported that he was on Wilkinson Avenue. Ariste also went looking for S.J. As a result of the violent retaliation, an innocent teenager identified in court documents as “M.T.” was shot and killed. Three other bystanders, including a three-year-old boy, were hit by stray bullets during the incident.

In addition to the prison terms, Judge Chesler sentenced Turner, Walker, and Ariste to three years of supervised release. Judge Chesler imposed Ariste's sentence to run consecutively to a 68-year sentence he is currently serving on a state murder charge.

In determining an actual sentence, Judge Chesler consulted the advisory United States Sentencing Guidelines, which provide appropriate sentencing ranges that take into account the severity and characteristics of the offense, the defendant's criminal history, if any, and other factors. Parole has been abolished in the federal system. Defendants who are given custodial terms must serve nearly all that time.

U.S. Attorney Fishman credited Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, under the direction of Special Agent In Charge Michael B. Ward in Newark, along with law enforcement officers from the Hudson County Prosecutor's Office, under the direction of Prosecutor Edward J. De Fazio; the Jersey City Police Department, under the direction of Police Chief Thomas J. Comey; and the Hudson County Sheriff's Department, under the direction of Sheriff Juan M. Perez, for the investigation leading to today's sentences.

The government is represented by Assistant U.S. Attorney Melissa Jampol of the U.S. Attorney's Office Criminal Division in Newark.

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Defense counsel:

Turner: Gary Mizzone, Esq., Little Falls, N.J.  
Michele Ann Adubato, Esq., Bayonne, N.J.

Walker: John M. Holliday, Esq., Trenton, N.J.  
Roy Greenman, Esq., Union, N.J.

Ariste: David Glazer, Esq., Livingston, N.J.  
John Tiffany, Esq., Newark, N.J.